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Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 04628 211741Z

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 ABF-01 OMB-01 AID-05 IO-10

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O 211733Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6888

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PASS URGENTLY TO TREASURY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, FR
SUBJECT: SELECTED SALARY INFORMATION

REF: STATE 35993

1. GOVERNMENT SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES ARE NOT MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD IN FRANCE. ACCORDINGLY, WE HAVE ELICITED INFORMATION REPORTED IN THIS TELEGRAM THROUGH LOW-KEY INQUIRY AT FINANCE MINISTRY.

2. IT IS DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY EXACT FRENCH EQUIVALENTS FOR ALL OF THE POSITIONS LISTED IN REFTEL. IN FRENCH GOVERNMENT, THERE ARE ONLY TWO CATEGORIES OF POSITION FILLED AT POLITICAL LEVEL: MINISTER AND STATE SECRETARY. THESE COULD BE EQUATED TO U.S. CABINET SECRETARY AND DEPUTY SECRETARY. WITH RARE EXCEPTIONS, POSTS OF DIRECTOR (HEADING A DIVISION IN A MINISTRY) AND BELOW ARE FILLED BY CAREER CIVIL SERVANTS. THUS, POSTS OF DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR BOTH ARE ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO RANGE OF UNDER SECRETARY - ASSISTANT SECRETARY - DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND ARE TOP CIVIL SERVICE GRADES.

3. FOLLOWING ARE SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF TOP
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PAGE 02 PARIS 04628 211741Z

FRENCH GOVERNMENT POSITIONS, IN DOLLAR EQUIVALENTS, AT

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4.6 FRANCS PER DOLLAR.

A. POLITICAL LEVEL
1. MINISTER - 38,879 PLUS 7.820 REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCE.
2. STATE SECRETARY - 35,405 PLUS 3.475 REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCE.

B. CAREER LEVEL

L. DIRECTOR - 23,458 TO 23,236 (PLUS AT LEAST 20 PERCENT IN BONUSES).
2. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - L4,770 TO 23,892 (PLUS AT LEAST 20 PERCENT IN BONUSES).

3. ELITE CORPS -- HIGHEST LEVEL (CONSEILLER D'ETAT, INSPECTEUR-GENERAL DES FINANCES, ETC.) - 28,236 (PLUS BONUSES).

4. REGULAR CIVIL SERVICE (ADMINISTRATEUR CIVIL HORS CLASSE) - L9,548 (PLUS BONUSES).

C. MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT - 2,606 PER MONTH.

4. TAXATION. ALL OF ABOVE INCOME IS TAXED EXCEPT AS FOLLOWS:
A. POLITICAL LEVEL - ENTERTAINMENT ALLOWANCES.

B. CAREER LEVEL - BONUSES.

C. M.P.'S - ABOUT ONE-HALF OF MONTHLY FIGURE GIVEN IS CONSIDERED NON-TAXABLE ALLOWANCE.

5. OUR FINANCE MINISTRY SOURCE REGRETTED HE COULD NOT SUPPLY US WITH INFORMATION ON SALARY AND ALLOWANCES OF GOVERNOR OF BANK OF FRANCE, WHICH IS AUTONOMOUS ENTITY. WE THINK IT BETTER NOT TO PURSUE THIS QUESTION.
RUSH

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